

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5141

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN UNN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 5363

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJ: FOLLOW-UP: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU

REF: (A) STATE 246346, (B) BUCHAREST 5147

1. DURING MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU OCT 20

I MADE PRESENTATION ON POST-CSCE MATTERS PER REFTELS.

DCM AND AMERICAN DESK OFFICER POPA ALSO PRESENT.

2. MACOVESCU REITERATED GOR'S INTENTION TO MAKE EVERY

EFFORT TO HONOR FULLY HELSINKI DECLARATION. HE EMPHASIZED

ROMANIAN NEED TO BE IN POSITION AT BELGRADE CONFERENCE

OF HAVING WHAT HE TERMED "A POSITIVE BALANCE" IN TERMS

OF ITS ADHERENCE TO INTERNAL, BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL

HELSINKI COMMITMENTS.

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FOREIGN MINISTER WELCOMED CONTINU-

ATION OF GOR-US COOPERATION IN FOLLOW-UP PROCESS. WE AGREED FORTHCOMING JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION MEETING OFFERED GOOD FRAMEWORK FOR INITIAL REVIEW OF ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF FOLLOW-UP. WE ALSO AGREED DCM WOULD MEET WITH LIPATTI IN NEXT SEVERAL DAYS TO LAUNCH CONTINUING POST-CSCE BILATERAL DIALOGUE. FOLLOWING ARE FOREIGN MINISTER'S RESPONSES TO TOPICS LISTED REF A. SUBJECT OF HUMAN CONTACTS (EMIGRATION) REPORTED SEPTTEL.

3. CBMS: MACOVESCU WAS OBVIOUSLY UNCOMFORTABLE DISCUSSING THIS SUBJECT. HE TRAVERSED USUAL ROMANIAN TERRAIN ON DELICACY OF ROMANIA'S GEOGRAPHIC AND POLITICAL POSITION. AT ONE POINT HE SUGGESTED PERHAPS USG WAS NOT ALWAYS QUITE SO SENSITIVE AS IT MIGHT BE TO GOR'S DILEMMAS. HE COMPARED US TO A HEAVY TANK RUMBLING DOWN A ROUGH ROAD. THE OCCUPANTS OF THE TANK NEVER FEEL A SINGLE JOLT BECAUSE OF THE SIZE OF THE VEHICLE. BUT THE ROMANIAN RIDING DOWN THE SAME ROAD ON HIS BICYCLE IS SUBJECT TO A SEVERE SHAKING UP. WITH REGARD TO THE RECENT INVITATIONS TO SEND OBSERVERS, HE SAID THEY CAUGHT THE GOR SOMEWHAT BY SURPRISE. THEY QUESTIONED HOW MUCH UTILITY WOULD COME FROM SENDING AN UNQUALIFIED EMBASSY OFFICER TO OBSERVE. IN ADDITION, THERE WAS, FOR OUR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, THE FACTOR OF CLEAR SOVIET OPPOSITION TO THE OBSERVER IDEA. CONSEQUENTLY, THE GOR DECIDED TO SKIP THE CHANCE THIS TIME. THIS WAS NOT A DECISION HOWEVER WHICH WOULD NECESSARILY APPLY TO FUTURE INVITATIONS. IT WAS A QUESTION OF LOOKING FOR "A PROPITIOUS MOMENT" TO ACCEPT AN INVITATION TO OBSERVE A MANEUVER. GOR STILL ATTACHES MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO CBMS.

4. ECONOMIC ISSUES: SEE PARA 2 ABOVE.

5. CULTURAL RELATIONS: STRESSING IMPORTANCE WE ATTACHED TO FORTHCOMING REVIEW OF CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES PROGRAM, I SUGGESTED ON A PERSONAL BASIS GOR SHOULD CONSIDER SENDING DEP MIN GLIGA TO HEAD ROMANIAN DELEGATION. FYI GLIGA HAS NOT BEEN IN U.S. SINCE 1971 AND IS OVERDUE, IT SEEMS TO ME, TO AN EXPOSURE TO CITY OF WASHINGTON. MY PRELIMINARY THOUGHT WOULD BE TO OFFER PARTIAL IV GRANT FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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TRIP AROUND U.S. IF GOR RECEPTIVE TO IDEA OF HIS HEADING ROMANIAN DELEGATION. END FYI. MACOVESCU RESPONDED HE WOULD OF COURSE WANT TO KNOW LEVEL OF U.S. PARTICIPATION BEFORE COMMITTING HIMSELF, BUT THOUGHT THE IDEA HAD MERIT. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON REACTION THIS PROPOSAL INCLUDING ANY THOUGHTS ON WHO GLIGA'S COUNTERPART MIGHT BE. SEE SEPTTEL FOR OUR INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON TIMING AND AGENDA.

BARNES

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